

HUNTINGDONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



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# Annual Report

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

UPON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY  
CONDITION

OF THE

COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON

For the year 1941

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
OF THE HUNTINGDONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the year 1941, to which this report relates, Dr. C. B. Moss-Blundell was in control as County Medical Officer, and the information contained in the report is largely statistical and has been compiled from records available in the office.

I have the honour to remain,  
Your obedient Servant,  
J. P. CANDLER.

*November, 1942.*



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## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA.

### 1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	233,985
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	56,206
„ (Estimated mid-1941)	...	...	...	...	...	67,400

### 2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births	{ Legitimate	... 424	462	886
	{ Illegitimate	... 30	21	51
	{ Total Births	... 454	483	937

Birth rate per 1,000 population ... 13.9

Still births ... 31

Still births rate per 1,000 total births 33.1

Deaths from all causes ... 823

Death Rate in:—

Urban Districts ... 11.4

Rural Districts ... 12.9

County of Huntingdon ... 12.2

England and Wales ... 12.9

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child birth :—

From Sepsis ... 1

From other causes ... 7

Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total births ... 8.5

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate ... 67.7

Illegitimate ... 98.0

Total death rate ... 69.4

BIRTHS.—The Birth-rate for Huntingdonshire for 1941 was 13.9 as compared with 14.9 for 1940,

**STILLBIRTHS.**—The still-birth rate for 1941 was 33.1, as compared with 37.0 in 1940.

**DEATHS.**—The crude death-rate for 1941 was 12.2 as compared with 14.2 in 1940.

The following table sets out the birth-rates and death-rates of the Urban and Rural Districts, and of England and Wales for the past five years :—

	BIRTH-RATE					DEATH-RATE				
	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Urban Districts ...	15.5	15.9	15.3	15.6	14.6	13.0	11.5	12.9	13.1	11.4
Rural Districts ...	14.0	14.7	14.2	13.9	13.2	13.6	12.8	13.7	14.8	12.9
County of Huntingdon ...	14.7	15.2	14.7	14.9	13.9	13.4	12.1	13.4	14.2	12.2
England and Wales...	14.9	15.1	15.0	14.2	14.2	12.4	11.6	12.1	14.3	12.9

**INFANT MORTALITY.**—The infant mortality rate for 1941 is 69.4 per 1,000 births as compared with 54.4 for 1940, 36.0 for 1939, 46.2 for 1938, 46.9 for 1937. The rate for England and Wales for the year 1941 was 59.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY.**—The number of women dying from conditions directly associated with child-birth (including sepsis) was 8. This gives a rate of 8.5 per 1,000 total births as compared with a rate of 2.1 for 1940, nil for 1939, 2.4 for 1938, and 2.4 for 1937.

**CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH.**—The chief causes of death during the year 1941 were Heart Disease 205, Cancer 113, Intra cranial vascular lesions 59, Bronchitis 46, Pneumonia 39, Tuberculosis (pulmonary) 22.

# VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1941.—Urban and Rural Districts.

District.	Births		Deaths		Deaths under 1 year of age.	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate per 1,000 reg'd births
<b>URBAN.</b>						
Godmanchester	39	14.9	31	11.9	3	76.9
Huntingdon	78	12.9	71	11.7	3	38.5
Old Fletton	110	13.2	66	7.9	4	36.4
Ramsey	136	23.2	69	11.8	10	73.5
St. Ives	50	14.5	48	13.9	3	60.0
St. Neots	52	9.4	77	14.0	5	96.2
Totals for Urban Districts...	465	14.6	362	11.4	28	60.2
<b>RURAL.</b>						
Huntingdon	102	13.2	105	13.6	7	68.6
Norman Cross	117	14.2	104	12.6	9	76.9
St. Ives	153	13.6	139	12.3	10	65.4
St. Neots	100	12.0	113	13.6	10	100.0
Totals for Rural Districts ...	472	13.2	461	12.9	36	76.3
County of Huntingdon	937	13.9	823	12.2	64	69.4
England and Wales	—	14.2	—	12.9	—	—



TABLE SHOWING DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES AND IN

CAUSES OF DEATH	CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE.					
	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	1	—	3	1	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	7	4	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ... ..	2	—	1	1	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Resp. System ... ..	—	—	1	16	4	1
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1	1	1	2	1	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	6	—
9. Influenza... ..	1	1	—	2	3	8
10. Measles ... ..	1	2	—	—	—	—
11. Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—
12. Acute Infantile Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buc.cav. and Oesoph.(M) Uterus (F)	—	—	—	—	7	5
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	—	—	—	1	9	13
15. Cancer of Breast ... ..	—	—	—	3	6	7
16. Cancer of all other Sites ... ..	—	1	—	3	24	34
17. Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—	1	1	6
18. Intra. cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	—	—	—	1	10	48
19. Heart Disease ... ..	—	—	—	2	32	171
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System... ..	—	—	—	—	4	34
21. Bronchitis ... ..	2	1	—	1	7	35
22. Pneumonia ... ..	10	1	3	6	7	12
23. Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	3	5
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	—	—	—	—	4	1
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—	3	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	—	2	—	2	5	9
28. Nephritis... ..	—	—	—	4	10	10
29. Puerperal and Post. Abortive Sepsis ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes ... ..	—	—	—	7	—	—
31. Premature Birth... ..	16	—	—	—	—	—
32. Con. Mal. Birth Injuries, Infant. Diseases ... ..	16	1	—	—	—	1
33. Suicide ... ..	—	—	—	1	2	2
34. Road Traffic Accidents... ..	—	1	2	3	6	5
35. Other Violent Causes ... ..	4	—	3	8	2	12
36. All Other Causes ... ..	2	5	3	2	18	57
TOTALS : ALL CAUSES ... ..	65	21	17	71	171	478

## DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON, 1941.

TOTALS	URBAN DISTRICTS						RURAL DISTRICTS			
	Huntingdon U.D.	Godmanchester U.D.	St. Ives U.D.	St. Neots U.D.	Ramsey U.D.	Old Hetton U.D.	Huntingdon R.D.	St. Ives R.D.	St. Neots R.D.	Norman Cross R.D.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	2	3
4	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	—	—
22	3	1	2	1	1	1	3	2	3	5
7	2	—	—	2	—	1	1	1	—	—
6	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
15	5	—	—	2	—	—	2	3	3	—
3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	—	1	—	2	1	2	—	1	2	3
23	5	—	2	1	2	3	4	2	3	1
16	3	1	2	1	1	2	5	—	1	—
62	7	4	5	5	3	5	7	9	10	7
8	2	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	—
59	7	2	2	8	4	6	7	12	5	6
205	9	7	11	16	20	20	28	43	25	26
38	—	—	7	4	1	1	6	13	3	3
46	6	2	—	8	1	3	5	6	11	4
39	4	—	6	4	6	1	5	6	5	2
8	1	—	2	1	—	—	2	—	1	1
5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
4	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	1
18	1	2	1	2	3	1	1	1	3	3
24	3	3	2	2	—	2	3	4	2	3
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
7	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	3
16	1	1	—	—	4	—	3	2	3	2
18	1	2	—	2	3	—	1	5	1	3
5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
17	—	1	1	3	1	—	2	5	1	3
29	2	1	1	1	2	5	5	4	4	4
87	6	1	3	9	8	5	10	14	17	14
823	71	31	48	77	69	66	105	139	113	104

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN HUNTINGDON COUNTY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1941.

District	Smallpox	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Puerperal Pyrexia	Encephalitis Lethargica	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Chicken Pox	Measles	Acute Poliomyelitis	Total
<b>URBAN.</b>															
Godmanchester	—	—	38	2	—	13	—	1	—	—	6	—	140	—	200
Huntingdon	—	—	67	4	1	21	1	2	1	—	29	—	140	—	266
Old Fletton	—	2	7	2	—	4	—	1	—	—	9	—	54	—	79
Ramsey	—	1	48	15	—	8	—	2	—	1	11	—	197	—	283
St. Neots	—	—	64	2	—	12	—	1	—	1	6	—	256	—	342
St. Ives	—	—	84	2	—	4	—	1	—	—	8	—	169	—	268
<b>RURAL.</b>															
Huntingdon	—	—	47	6	—	8	1	—	—	—	14	—	238	1	315
Norman Cross	—	4	53	1	—	7	1	—	—	1	12	—	109	—	188
St. Ives	—	—	50	6	—	6	—	—	1	—	38	—	409	—	510
St. Neots	—	1	64	4	—	9	1	12	—	—	15	—	249	—	355
	—	8	522	44	1	92	4	20	2	3	148	—	1961	1	2806



**Diphtheria.**—The number of cases of diphtheria notified during 1941 was 44, as compared with 62 in 1940, 29 in 1939, 49 in 1938, 202 in 1937.

Immunisation of children under 5 years of age is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centres in the County. During 1941 659 infants were immunised.

In three Sanitary Districts the County Medical Staff carry out the immunisation of school children (acting as agents for these Districts). In addition the immunisation work in seven Districts is performed by the District Medical Officers.

A total of 3,454 children of all ages were immunised during the year 1941.

There were 4 deaths from diphtheria during the year.

**Scarlet Fever.**—92 notifications were received, and there were no deaths.

**Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.**—4 cases were notified, and there were no deaths.

**Puerperal Pyrexia.**—22 cases were notified, and 5 of these received institutional treatment.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**—8 cases were notified, and there were no deaths.

**Whooping Cough.**—522 cases were notified during 1941.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

Part I.—Summary of Notifications during the period 1st Jan., 1941, to the 31st Dec., 1941, in the area of the County of Huntingdon.

		Formal Notifications.										
		Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis.										
AGE PERIODS		0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards
Pulmonary—	...	—	—	—	1	—	2	6	4	2	1	—
	Females	—	—	1	2	1	3	9	4	1	1	1
Non-Pulmonary—	...	1	4	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	9
	Females	—	1	4	4	1	1	—	1	—	—	1
		Total										
		16										
		23										
		19										
		13										

Part II.—Supplemental Return.

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification.

Pulmonary—	...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
	Females	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary—	...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
		4										
		2										
		2										
		3										

TUBERCULOSIS.

Return showing the work of the Dispensaries during the year 1941.

Diagnosis	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total				Grand Total
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
A.—Number of definite cases on Register at beginning of year ... ..	71	52	4	6	28	19	17	23	99	71	21	29	220
B.—Number of new cases diagnosed during the year													
Class T.B. minus ... ..	12	11	—	2	—	—	—	—	12	11	—	2	25
Class T.B. plus ... ..	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	7
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	1	1	2	4	1	8
No. of Transfers from other areas ... ..	3	3	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	4	1	1	9
Cases lost sight of returned during year ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
C.—Number of cases in A and B written off during the year.													
Recovered ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dead (all causes) ... ..	9	6	—	1	1	—	—	—	10	6	—	1	17
Removed to other areas ... ..	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	3
For other reasons ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
D.—Number of definite cases on Register at the end of the year ... ..	80	63	4	6	28	22	22	25	108	85	26	31	250

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of deaths from tuberculosis (all forms) in the County for 1941 was 29, that for Urban Districts being 14, and for Rural Districts 15.

The number of cases of Pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1941 was 39, as compared with 41 in 1940. 13 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified as against 8 in 1940. In addition 6 pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary cases came to notice, otherwise than by formal notification (e.g. from death returns, etc.) (See table on page 10.)

**Dispensaries.**—The figures relating to work in connection with Dispensaries are shown in the table on page 11.

**Institutional Treatment.**—Cases of pulmonary tuberculosis are accommodated in Papworth Hall Sanatorium, and children in other out-county Sanatoria. Non-pulmonary cases are admitted mainly to the Manfield Orthopædic Hospital, Northampton. The following table shows the extent of residential treatment during 1941 :—

			In Institutions on January 1st, 1941	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in Institutions	In Institutions on 31st December, 1941
No. of Patients	Adults	M ... F ...	15 5	21 14	14 6	1 2	21 11
	Children	M... F ...	5 3	17 12	10 10	— —	12 5
Total			28	64	40	3	49



### VENEREAL DISEASES.

Venereal Diseases Clinics are held at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, on Tuesdays, at 3.0 p.m., and on Thursdays at 7.0 p.m., and at 28 Fitzwilliam Street, Peterborough, on Tuesdays and Fridays (Men) at 6—8 p.m., and Tuesdays and Fridays (Women) at 3.30—6 p.m.

Table showing Huntingdonshire patients treated at the V.D. Treatment Centres :—

### VENEREAL DISEASES.

#### Abstract relating to Huntingdon patients treated at the Venereal Diseases Treatment Centres.

	Cambridge	Peterborough
A—Number of persons dealt with for the first time and found to be suffering from—		
Syphilis ... ..	3	12
Soft Chancre ... ..	—	1
Gonorrhœa... ..	5	3
Conditions other than Venereal ... ..	8	24
Total ... ..	16	40
B—Attendances of all patients ... ..	121	1189

## MATERNITY AND MID-WIFERY SERVICES.

There are 19 Nursing Associations employing 25 Nurse Midwives. The work done by these Nurses is as follows :—

Midwifery	...	...	...	...	420
Maternity	...	...	...	...	278
General Sick Nursing cases	...	...	...	2,122	
Number of General Nursing visits	...	...	28,660		
Number of casual visits	...	...	12,625		
Ante-natal visits	...	...	...	5,608	

The District Nurses also act as Infant Health Visitors, and 6,344 visits were made to children of under 1 year of age in 1940, and 8,354 visits in 1941, and 7,295 visits to children between 1 and 5 years of age in 1940, and 8,603 in 1941.

The County Council are fortunate in having the services of Mr. Leonard Phillips as Gynæcological Consultant.

Dental treatment is available for expectant and nursing mothers. During the year 1941, 50 cases, dentures were supplied, the whole or part cost being recovered from the patient according to her means.

There are 13 Infant Welfare Centres in the County. The total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year, and who, on the date of their first attendance were:—

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	608
Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	532

The total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were:—

Under 1 year of age	...	...	...	418
Over 1 year of age	...	...	...	1037



